



LOCHSIDE ELEMENTARY PARENT/GUARDIAN WEEKLY

Tom Vickers - Principal
Joan O'Leary – Vice Principal

May 15, 2020

No doubt you are excited to learn, as are we, that we can now plan for a partial return to school. We are working with provincial guidelines and our district leadership in this process. More information will come to you directly from Superintendent Eberwein.

We have successfully made the transition to remote learning, and we have full confidence that we will be able to transition back to our building with equal success. Our path will not be without bumps and will certainly involve some careful planning. We will take our time and ensure that there are pauses to attend to our feelings and any concerns.

With gratitude for all you are doing,

Tom & Joan

Information Items:

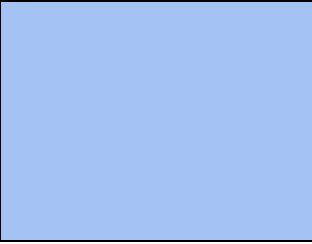
Retirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● It is with mixed emotions we announce the retirement of Ms. Seabrooke. We are fortunate to have worked with Ms. Seabrooke over the last many years. She has done so much for our community at Lochside - highlights include a special focus on respectful and caring relationships, athleticism, service and dedication to both her classroom/school community and personal resilience. She brings a sense of fun and community to our school! We wish her well:) Stay tuned for details on a celebration and ways to honour this wonderful educator.
Student Device Loan Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● While we recognize that there may still be an ongoing need, in some cases, to increase the number of devices for students at home, Saanich Schools will be pausing the district device loan program. We will have more information about the device loan program in the future.● Parents can also visit the BC Technology for Learning Society as another method to bring a computer into their homes: https://www.reusetechbc.ca/request-tech.html
Friday is Joke Day!	<p>When do astronauts eat? At launch time!</p> <p>What happened when the wheel was invented? It caused a revolution!</p>

	<p>Why did the music teacher need a ladder? To reach the high notes!</p>
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<p>Parent Input to Class Placement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is by no means necessary or required that parents provide written input on their child’s class placement. Teachers get to know kids and their friends and family very well over the course of the year and will thoughtfully group kids into their new classes for September. Only if there is unique information you feel could be missed, please use this form. ● Please read the form carefully and fully before filling it out. ● Return your form to Mr. Vickers or Mrs. O’Leary by Monday May 25 via email - tvickers@saanichschools.ca or joleary@saanichschools.ca
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<p>Smile and Wave Drive-By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please save the date of May 22nd between 2-2:45PM. We will be having a “reverse” drive-by event. More details to come
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<p>Parenting, Belonging and Connection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During the extended time of sheltering and staying home, there is this dilemma of how to ensure connection and belonging. - for the kids and for ourselves. This Lead Teacher from Langley has a great message for us:) https://youtu.be/JhHZR7bKNt8 ● In her blog she recommends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Light up for each other: See the magic you can create with this simple practice. Light up when you see those children of yours. This can be a huge, crazy light up moment for the ones that are seeking your attention (connection) a lot (always in your face) or a quieter smile or comment for the one that is hiding in their room. This works for children and adults alike. People may be suspicious of your motives at first, but it is well worth it. ○ Belonging Clues: Belonging clues are simple behaviors that make people feel like they are valued and safe in groups. These are simple things like eye contact, giving attention to someone, taking turns in conversation. It is anything that lets the other person know that they are unique and valued and the relationship you have is important. ○ Relationship Rituals: When I was a child, we had something called conversation time every Sunday evening before dinner. We were allowed a glass of pop which was never usually allowed, and all 7 of us sat down and had conversation. With our own children we called family meetings. We put together a joint agenda, worked through things we were struggling with and made plans for activities together. There was a lot of enthusiasm for family meetings when the kids were young and some eye rolling when they were older, but they came. I will tell you it was
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those connection rituals that got us through when things were difficult, and we had to find ways “get through this” together.